

Message Text

SECRET

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44

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 PRS-01 USIA-15 CIAE-00 INR-11

NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 EB-12

OMB-01 TRSE-00 DRC-01 /123 W
----- 118199

R 031510Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0680

S E C R E T LISBON 4273

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PFOR US SF

SUBJ: DEPARTMENT GUIDANCE ON TAD SZULC ARTICLE IN ESQUIRE

REF: STATE 213729

1. EMBASSY FEARS THAT USG OFFICIALS ATTEMPTING DEFEND THE SALE OF THE BOEING 707S TO PORTUGAL WOULD BE OPEN TO THE CHARGE THAT US IS DELIBERATELY TRYING TO MISLEAD LISTENERS IF THEY USE PARA 7 REFTEL FORMULATION.

2. AS DEPARTMENT OF COURSE AWARE, AIRCRAFT WERE SOLD TO GOP CIVIL AVIATION DIRECTORATE WITH FULL KNOWLEDGE THAT THEY WOULD BE TURNED OVER TO THE PORTUGUESE AIR FORCE AND USED ALMOST ENTIRELY FOR TRANSPORTING TROOPS BACK AND FORTH BETWEEN PORTUGAL AND AFRICA. THE USE OF THE WORD "ROUTES" SUGGESTS THAT THESE AIRCRAFT ARE USED ON CIVILIAN AIRLINE ROUTES AND THE PHRASE "MILITARY AS WELL AS CIVILIAN PASSENGERS" SUGGESTS THAT USE OF THESE AIRCRAFT HAS NOT BEEN ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY MILITARY IN NATURE.

4. EMBASSY SUGGESTS THAT IN LIEU OF PARA 7 WE SIMPLY STATE THAT 707S ARE NOT CONSIDERED INSTRUMENTS OF WAR, CIVILIAN ET AIRCRAFT HAD BEEN SOLD TO PORTUGAL PREVIOUSLY, AND THE USG CONCLUDED THAT THE 707S IN QUESTION DID NOT FALL UNDER THE ARMS EMBARGO.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Draft Date: 03 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CollinP0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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